

Top Secret 233

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Monday January 3, 1977

CI NIDC 77-001C

State Department review completed

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions

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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Monday January 3, 1977.

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The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

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BOTSWANA

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[REDACTED] Botswana is deeply concerned over its inability to prevent border violations by Rhodesian security forces, and last month it appealed to the UN Security Council for help, listing 31 specific violations.

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[REDACTED] Botswanan President Khama recently announced he was expanding and re-equipping the 400-man police mobile unit-- Botswana's only military force--which is currently patrolling the 800-kilometer border with Rhodesia. Botswana has been seeking arms in both the US and the UK but has been concerned over the high price and red tape involved. Even with new weapons and a larger police force, Botswana will be unable to prevent border incursions by the Rhodesians.

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[REDACTED] In a recent press interview, the Soviet ambassador to Zambia and Botswana said in Lusaka that the USSR is ready to give Botswana military help to repulse Rhodesian troops. Khama, however, is uneasy over the aggressive role the Soviets have been playing in southern Africa and would prefer to keep their influence to a minimum.

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CHINA: Policy Position

[] National People's Congress Vice Chairman Chen I-sung's comments last week on Chinese foreign relations, particularly with the US, are now available in fuller versions; they contain no significant departures from established Chinese policy positions.

[] Unequivocal reaffirmation of China's three preconditions for normalization of relations with the US--abrogation of the US-Taiwan defense treaty, withdrawal of US forces from Taiwan, and severance of diplomatic relations with the Nationalist government--accompanied Chen's suggestion that the US issue a unilateral statement of its concern for peace in the western Pacific as a device to allay fears that China would seize Taiwan.

[] He also said China would continue to refuse to promise the US that it would not incorporate Taiwan by force. Chen only offered the assurance that, in principle, China sought a peaceful reunification.

[] While claiming to be expressing personal views, Chen undoubtedly received official guidance. His statements are another indication of China's interest in making progress on establishing full diplomatic relations with the US early in the incoming administration. They also may be intended to make China seem somewhat conciliatory and to end US insistence on a Chinese guarantee of non-use of force in Taiwan, a demand officials in Peking have repeatedly turned aside.



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[REDACTED] Chen also proposed a scenario for reunification that emphasized a contribution by Taiwanese to determine the course and pace of the process. Such proposals have little substance but are aimed at reassuring Taiwanese and encouraging dissension between them and the Taipei government.

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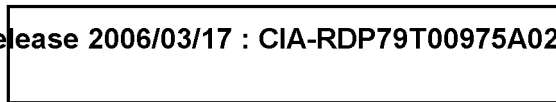
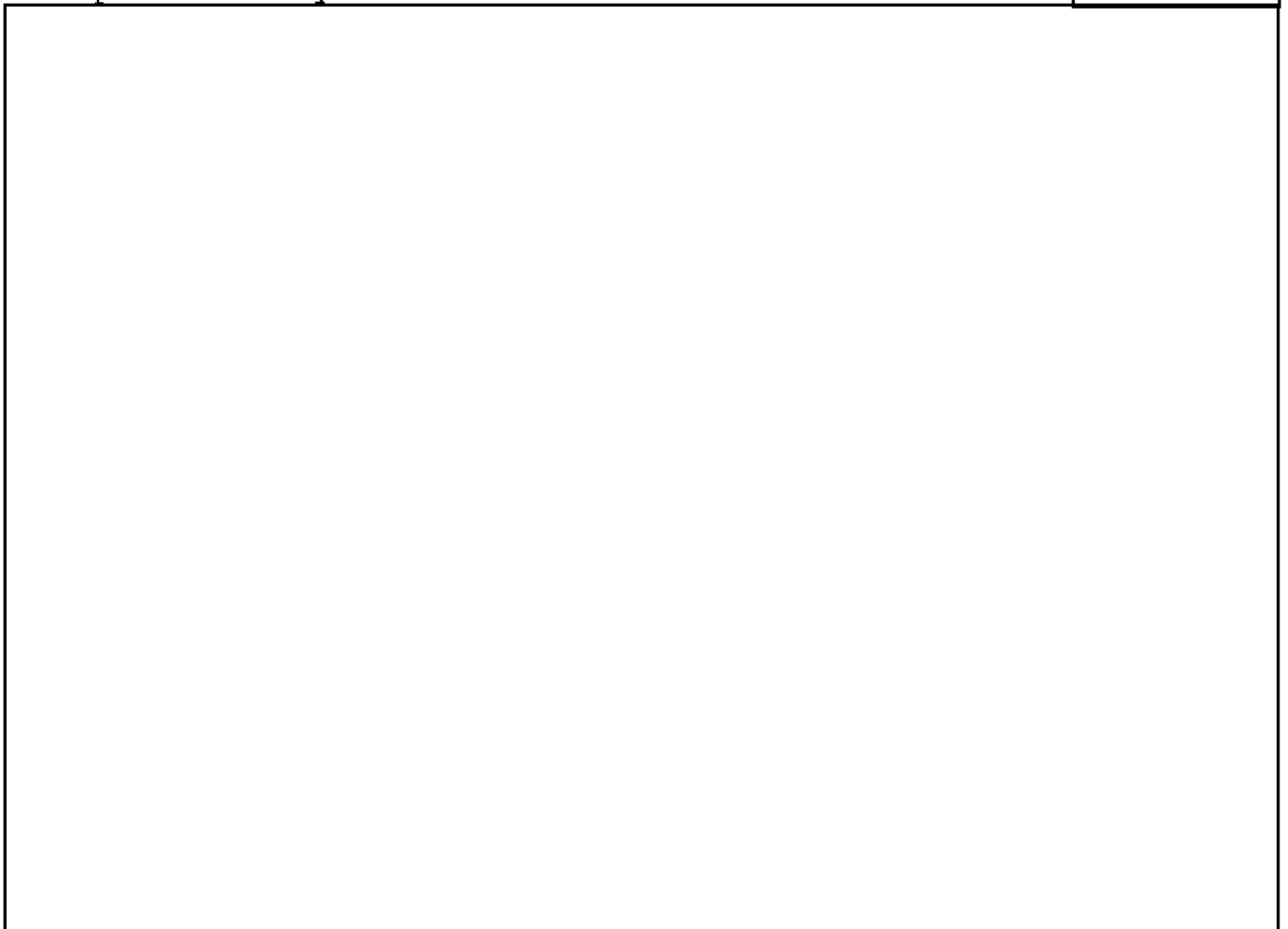
[REDACTED] With reference to the Soviet Union, Chen's suggestion that the US, Western Europe, Japan, and China cooperate to oppose Soviet hegemonism contained no specifics and has been made in different ways in the past.

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[REDACTED] Chen made his comments to Japanese newsmen during a stopover in Tokyo en route to the US to visit relatives. [REDACTED]

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